



NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD

# NTSB Training Center Course Catalog 2021

The NTSB Training Center is the training facility for the National Transportation Safety Board, an independent federal agency that investigates all civil aviation accidents in the United States and selected accidents in other modes of transportation.

The Training Center provides training for NTSB investigators and others from the transportation community to improve their practice of accident investigation techniques.

The curriculum promotes independent, objective, and technically sound accident investigations that will enhance the safety of all modes of transportation.

## CONTENTS

### General Information 2

Location / Courses  
Practical Training  
Instructors  
Who May Attend  
Operations During COVID-19  
Facility Rental  
Investigations

### 2021 Course Listings 3-4

Aviation  
Intermodal  
Media Relations  
Railroad  
Transportation Disaster Assistance

### Schedule At-a-Glance 5



# GENERAL INFORMATION

## Location

The NTSB Training Center's 72,000-square-foot facility is located in Ashburn, Virginia, 10 miles from Washington Dulles Airport and 30 miles from Washington, DC. Driving directions, maps, and a virtual tour of the Training Center are available online at [www.ntsbt.gov/tc](http://www.ntsbt.gov/tc).

## Courses

The Training Center offers a variety of courses ranging in length from one day to two weeks, with wide applicability throughout the field of transportation accident investigation, including such courses as Cognitive Interviewing Techniques, Investigating Human Fatigue Factors, and Accident Site Photography. Most courses offered at the Training Center are also open to transportation safety professionals outside the NTSB (see "Who May Attend").

## Practical Training

Recognizing the importance of applying the information learned to real-world challenges, Training Center courses emphasize examples, demonstrations, and when appropriate, hands-on training. Participants leave the courses with useful information and skills that can be applied immediately.

## Instructors

Most of the courses taught at the Training Center are developed and delivered by NTSB investigative staff. To ensure the most comprehensive presentations, the Training Center has identified outside subject matter experts to instruct on special topics in accident investigation and related competencies.

## Who May Attend

The Training Center does not enroll participants as traditional academic institutions do. Since courses have diverse admissions criteria, prospective participants are admitted on a course-by-course basis. For further details please see the "Who May Attend" section included in each course description on our website. Questions should be directed to [studentservices@ntsb.gov](mailto:studentservices@ntsb.gov).

## Operations During COVID-19

Due to federal and state regulations and for everyone's safety, all courses are currently being offered virtually, via the Zoom platform – subject to change until further notice.

## Facility Rental

The NTSB Training Center is available for reservation by transportation industry and governmental organizations. The auditorium and classrooms are equipped with advanced audio-visual equipment and internet connectivity. For reservations or questions, contact us at [TCReservations@ntsb.gov](mailto:TCReservations@ntsb.gov) or call us at 571-223-3900.

## Investigations

The Training Center facility also houses a football field-size high bay laboratory with an overhead crane. Since the Training Center has been in existence, wreckage from several investigations has been transported to the lab, enabling NTSB investigators to thoroughly examine and document the wreckage within the Center's secure facilities. The laboratory serves not only as an instructional venue but also as a resource for active investigations.



## NTSB Training Center Mission

TO PROMOTE SAFE TRANSPORT BY –

- ENSURING AND IMPROVING the quality of accident investigation through critical thought, instruction, and research;
- COMMUNICATING lessons learned, fostering the exchange of new ideas and new experience, and advocating operational excellence;
- PROVIDING a modern platform for accident reconstruction and evaluation; and
- USING its high-quality training resources to facilitate family assistance and first responder programs, sister agency instruction, and other compatible federal activity.

## Brief History

The NTSB Training Center was established to improve the training and skills of its employees and make its safety expertise more widely available to the diverse transportation community.

In 2000, the NTSB selected The George Washington University as the Training Center's home. In 2001, the NTSB and the university signed a 20-year lease. The new training facility opened in August 2003 in Ashburn, Virginia.



## TWA FLIGHT 800 RECONSTRUCTION

Weighing about 60,000 pounds and consisting of almost 1,600 pieces, the 93-foot section of the center fuselage of TWA flight 800 was transported and reassembled at the Training Center in 2003 and has been used to train hundreds of investigators from around the world.

# COURSE LISTINGS

## Aviation

### Aircraft Accident Investigation

**AS101 MARCH 15-26 & SEPTEMBER 20-OCTOBER 1**

A comprehensive overview of the procedures and methods used and the skills required to investigate an aircraft accident. Examples from recent NTSB investigations will be used to demonstrate aspects of the investigative process. This course includes hands-on exercises intended to prepare participants to serve on an accident investigation team.

### Helicopter Accident Investigation

**AS103 OCTOBER 18-22**

A comprehensive overview of the procedures and methods used and the skills required to investigate all aspects of helicopter accidents. Examples from recent investigations will be used to demonstrate aspects of the investigative process.

### Accident Investigation Orientation for Aviation Professionals

**AS301 MARCH 2-3 & OCTOBER 27-28**

Led by senior NTSB management and investigators, this course provides a broad overview of how the NTSB investigates major aircraft accidents and what is expected of parties to an investigation.

### Survival Factors in Aviation Accidents

**AS302 DATE TO BE ANNOUNCED**

Visit [www.nts.gov/tc](http://www.nts.gov/tc) for the latest course information.



## Intermodal

### Accident Site Photography

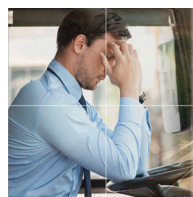
**IM300S DATE TO BE ANNOUNCED**

This offering includes three courses in one training event—two days of photography instruction and practical exercises, in addition to one day of digital image processing. Participants learn how to capture the most important and useful images to document any accident site. Applying the methods described in this course, students will create their own images using various photographic techniques and then share in critique sessions offering constructive observations for improvement.

### Investigating Human Fatigue Factors

**IM303 JULY 13-15**

This course provides information and guidance to evaluate the role human fatigue plays in an accident sequence, including whether it was a causal or contributing factor. The course covers fatigue-related issues at the individual, medical, operational, and environmental



levels, and discusses how these issues affect human performance, alertness, and safety. It will also examine the types of information that should be collected during an investigation. Case studies and hands-on exercises will demonstrate the concepts discussed in the classroom.

### Biomechanics of High Impact Injury

**IM309 DATE TO BE ANNOUNCED**

Visit [www.nts.gov/tc](http://www.nts.gov/tc) for the latest course information.

### Cognitive Interviewing Series

**IM401 JANUARY 11-12 & JULY 19-20**

Learn the foundational knowledge and skills needed to conduct interviews of participants in, and witnesses to, transportation incidents or accidents. Emphasis is placed on cognitive interviewing techniques to maximize the amount and quality of information obtained during investigative interviews.

### Advanced Interviewing Techniques

**IM402 DATE TO BE ANNOUNCED**

Visit [www.nts.gov/tc](http://www.nts.gov/tc) for the latest course information.



## APPLY FOR A COURSE

**APPLICATIONS ACCEPTED ONLINE.** To apply and pay online, scan the QR code at left, or access the application link in the *Apply to Attend* section of the course description. Paying by check? No problem!

The online system accepts checks, credit cards, and debit cards. For complete details visit [www.nts.gov/tc](http://www.nts.gov/tc).

## Media Relations

### Managing Communications Following an Aircraft Accident or Incident

**MR302** SEPTEMBER 14–15

This course teaches participants what to expect in the days immediately following an aviation accident or incident and how they can prepare for their role interacting with the media.

### Managing Communications Following a Major Transportation Accident

**MR303** AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST

This tailored-to-participants' needs course teaches attendees what to expect in the days immediately following a major transportation accident and how they can prepare for their role with the media. The course can be customized to focus on any one of the following transportation accident modes: Aviation, Marine, Highway, Railroad, or Pipeline.



## Railroad

### Accident Investigation Orientation

**RS301** NOVEMBER 9–11

This course details how the NTSB investigates railroad and rail transit accidents and what it expects of parties to an investigation.



## Transportation Disaster Assistance

### Family Assistance

**TDA301** APRIL 13–15 & OCTOBER 5–7  
(Limited to first 50 registrations)

Developed for commercial transportation officials, representatives of local, state, and federal agencies, staff of non-governmental relief organizations, and emergency managers, this course is instrumental in understanding how any organization involved in the accident response can most effectively support family assistance efforts.

NTSB Transportation Disaster Assistance specialists, clinicians, and other professionals will present a variety of disaster response and family assistance topics. Participants will learn from NTSB responders who have developed partnership programs to manage disasters.

### Emergency Accounting for Victims Following Transportation Mass Casualty Incidents

**TDA406** DATE TO BE ANNOUNCED



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## SCHEDULE AT-A-GLANCE

| Aviation                           |   | COURSE DATES                         |
|------------------------------------|---|--------------------------------------|
| AS101                              | Aircraft Accident Investigation   | March 15–26 ■ September 20–October 1 |
| AS103                              | Helicopter Accident Investigation   | October 18–22                        |
| AS301                              | Aircraft Accident Investigation for Aviation Professionals                        | March 2–3 ■ October 27–28            |
| AS302                              | Survival Factors in Aviation Accidents  | To Be Announced                      |
| Intermodal                         |   |                                      |
| IM300                              | Accident Site Photography   | To be announced                      |
| IM303                              | Investigating Human Fatigue Factors   | July 13–15                           |
| IM309                              | Biomechanics of High Impact Injury  | To Be Announced                      |
| IM401                              | Cognitive Interviewing Series   | January 11–12 ■ July 19–20           |
| IM402                              | Advanced Interviewing Techniques  | To Be Announced                      |
| Media Relations                    |   |                                      |
| MR302                              | Managing Communications Following an Aircraft Accident or Incident                | September 14–15                      |
| MR303                              | Managing Communications Following a Major Transportation Accident                 | On Demand                            |
| Railroad                           |   |                                      |
| RS301                              | Accident Investigation Orientation  | November 9–11                        |
| Transportation Disaster Assistance |   |                                      |
| TDA301                             | Family Assistance   | April 13–15 ■ October 5–7            |
| TDA406                             | Emergency Accounting for Victims Following Transportation Mass Casualty Incidents | To Be Announced                      |

NTSB Training Center  
45065 Bles Park Drive  
Ashburn, Virginia 20147  
[www.NTSB.gov/TC](http://www.NTSB.gov/TC)



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